

## AT Low Tech Tools

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## Low Technology Solutions for Writing

- Stay Put Folder
- Magnetic Letters
- Alternate writing tools, change size, shape, weight or length (Dr. Grip)
- Magnetic Word Poetry
- Slant Boards/Clip boards
- Vary Paper Type, (raised line, narrow ruled, color)
- Use of Notetaking devices (AlphaSmarts, DreamWriters)
- Typewriters
- Name/Letter Stamps
- Spelling Dictionaries
- Word Lists
- Handwriting grid
- Franklin Speller/Homework Wiz
- Dry Erase Boards

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# Low Technology Solutions for Math

- Graph Paper/Math Grids
- Talking Calculator
- Large Button Calculator
- Coin-U-Lator
- Number Stamps
- Finger Pinch Ruler
- Number Lines
- Concrete Counting Objects
- Velcro Math Book
- Magnetic Numbers

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# Low Technology Solutions for Reading

- Highlighting Tape
- Color Filters
- Color Coding
- Post It Notes
- Magnifiers
- Page Flufffers
- Adapted Books
  - picture strips to match words
  - modified reading level
  - teen magazines with modified text
- Books on Tape
- Digital Books
- Content Area Text Read by Talking Word Processor

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# Low Technology Solutions for Organization

- Color Dots
- Arrow Tags
- Post It Notes
- Highlighters/Highlighting Tape
- Digital Voice Recorder
- Timer
- Book Holder
- Pocket Folders
- Calendar/ Planer

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# Grip tricks

## Ideas on how to improve a students pencil grip.

- Try different pencil grips, they may be purchased from most school supply store or The Therapy Shoppe, [www.therapysshoppe.com](http://www.therapysshoppe.com)
- Try different shapes of writing tools, office supply stores carry a nice variety
- Have students write/draw with small pieces of chalk or crayons.
- Have students use short pencils, like golf pencils.
- Try using a slant board, this can be made by covering a 4 inch 3 ring binder.
- Have student write on a blackboard, or other vertical surface.

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# Hand Strengthening Activities for Writing &

- Have the student pick up small items with tweezers, using 2 kinds of beans is a great way to play Tic-Tac-Toe.
- Pinch and pull play dough, or hide small objects in it and let students find them.
- Wind up oys.
- Using clothespins to hang items up.
- Games like, "Bed Bugs", "Tiddlywinks", "Ants in the Pants", and "Operation".
- Wringing out sponges.
- Magic Tricks, such as the jumping rubber bands.
- Cotton ball races using bulb-type nasal aspirators, used with babies.
- Using a hole punch.
- Coloring over textured materials.

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# The Left Handed Child and Writing

- It is important to teach the left handed proper handing writing skills, if they mirror their right handed peers many bad habits will develop such as hooking their wrists to see what they are writing.
- Paper should always be parallel with the writing arm, may be as much as 45 degrees.
- Make sure the child has "letter/word models" down the right side of their paper.
- Put tape maker on the desk as a visual cue where to put the paper.
- Make sure the child has good seating, feet flat on the floor, and table approximately an inch or so higher then the bended elbow.
- Have students start their letters from the top, they have more control. This way they are pulling the pencil down instead of up.

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# Writing Without Pencil & Paper

Below are some suggestions on ways students who are unable to write can produce written output:

- ♦ Magnetic letters and numbers
- ♦ Refrigerator poetry magnets for making sentences
- ♦ Rubber stamp letters and numbers
- ♦ Rubber stamp with name and date
- ♦ Portable word processor
- ♦ Create fill in the blanks with double-sided tape on the blank area. Use cut out words to place in the blanks.
- ♦ Set up word processing templates on the computer for content work.

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## Stay-put Folder

This folder was designed to assist students with keeping their paper in one place on their desk while writing.

### **Materials:**

Report Cover/Two Pocket folder (without brads)

Post-It Self-Stick Bulletin Board (Retail price \$11.91/ 18x23 inches)

Non-Slip Shelf Liner (available at most discount stores or \$1/roll at Dollar Stores)

1" masking or plastic tape

### **Directions to Make:**

1. Measure the height and width of the folder.
2. Cut a piece of the Self-Stick Bulletin Board material 1" smaller than the height and width of the folder.
3. Cut a piece of the shelf liner 1" smaller than the height and width of the folder.

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## Stay-put Folder (cont.)

4. With the folder open, center the shelf liner on the right hand side of the folder and tape around the edges to secure to the folder.
5. With the folder open, center the self-stick bulletin board material on the left hand side of the folder and tape around the edges to secure to the folder.

### To use:

- Open folder and fold back so outside surfaces are touching.
- Place the shelf liner side on the desk or other writing surface.
- Place a sheet of writing paper on the other side, with the sticky Post-it Bulletin Board material.
- Initially pages written will curl but as the stickiness of the material lessens this should not be a problem.

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# Free Graphics Web Sites

- [Www.pics4learning.com](http://Www.pics4learning.com)
- [Www.discoveryschool.com](http://Www.discoveryschool.com)
- [Www.teacherfiles.com/clip\\_art.htm](http://Www.teacherfiles.com/clip_art.htm)
- [Www.ncrtec.org/picture.htm](http://Www.ncrtec.org/picture.htm) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.schoolicons.com/eng](http://Www.schoolicons.com/eng)
- [Www.kidsdomain.com/clip/index.html](http://Www.kidsdomain.com/clip/index.html)
- [Www.allclipartsite.com](http://Www.allclipartsite.com) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.animationfactory.com](http://Www.animationfactory.com)
- [Www.clipsahoy.com](http://Www.clipsahoy.com) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.nzwwa.com/mirror/clipart/index.html](http://Www.nzwwa.com/mirror/clipart/index.html)
- [Www.freeimages.com](http://Www.freeimages.com)

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- [Www.pics4learning.com](http://Www.pics4learning.com)
- [Www.discoveryschool.com](http://Www.discoveryschool.com)
- [Www.teacherfiles.com/clip\\_art.htm](http://Www.teacherfiles.com/clip_art.htm)
- [Www.ncrtec.org/picture.htm](http://Www.ncrtec.org/picture.htm) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.schoolicons.com/eng](http://Www.schoolicons.com/eng)
- [Www.kidsdomain.com/clip/index.html](http://Www.kidsdomain.com/clip/index.html)
- [Www.allclipartsite.com](http://Www.allclipartsite.com) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.animationfactory.com](http://Www.animationfactory.com)
- [Www.clipsahoy.com](http://Www.clipsahoy.com) (site that links you to more sites)
- [Www.nzwwa.com/mirror/clipart/index.html](http://Www.nzwwa.com/mirror/clipart/index.html)
- [Www.freeimages.com](http://Www.freeimages.com)

# Mouse Keys - Windows

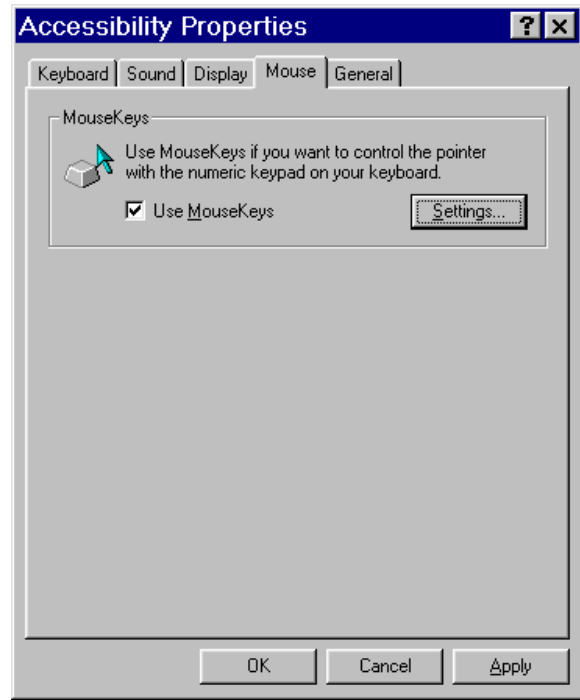
To turn on Mouse Keys

- Start
- Control Panel
- Accessibility Properties
- Mouse
- Click on "Use Mouse Keys"
- Apply

Key functions:

- / = left button
- = right button
- + = double click
- 0 = button lock
- . = button release
- 1, 7, 9, 3 = diagonals
- 8 = up
- 2 = down
- 4 = left
- 6 = right
- \* = both buttons down

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# Mouse Keys - Windows

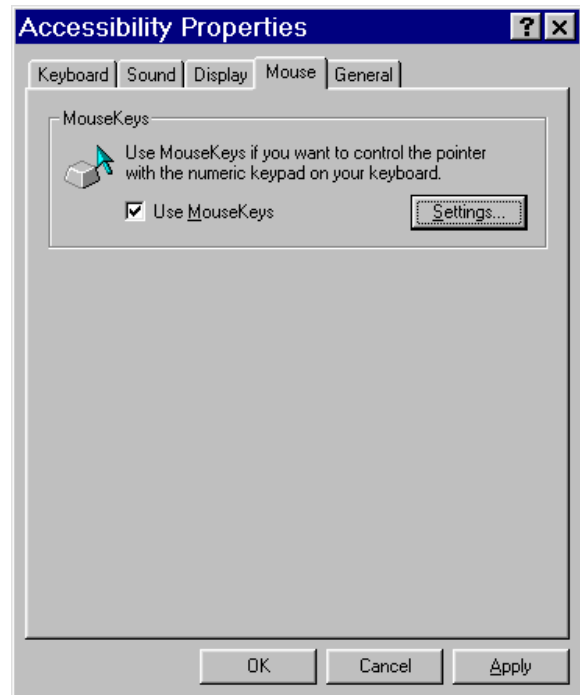
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# Sticky Keys - Windows

Use Sticky Keys if you want use Shift, CTRL, ALT or Windows logo key by pressing one key at a time.

To turn on Sticky Keys

- Start
- Control Panel
- Accessibility Properties
- Keyboard
- Click on "Use Sticky Keys"
- Apply



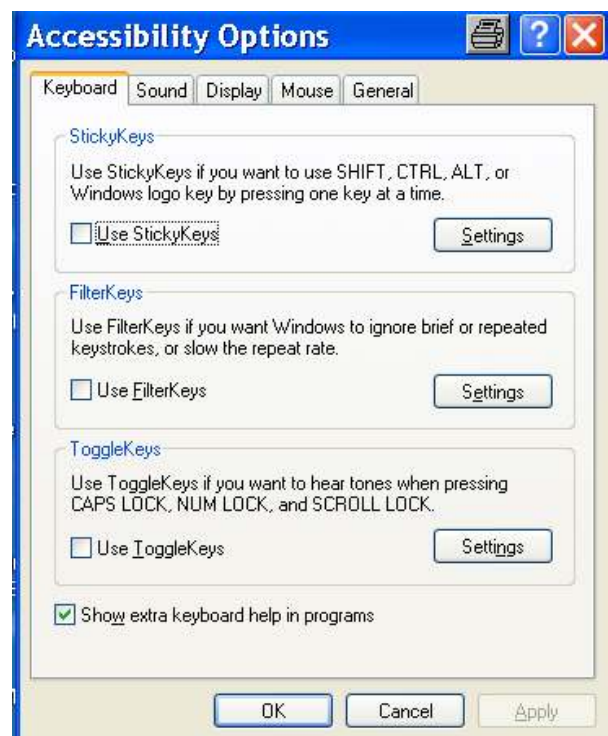
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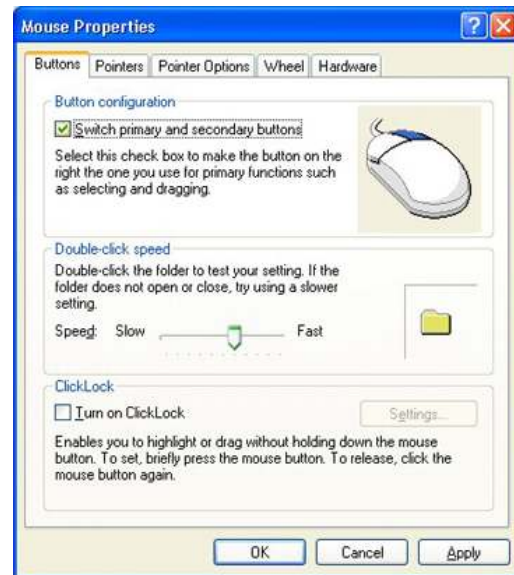
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# Change Mouse Buttons - Windows

Change Mouse Button functions if the student has trouble clicking the left mouse button.

To change Mouse Button features:

- Start
- Control Panel
- Mouse
- Click on "Button Configuration"
- Check Switch primary and secondary buttons
- Click Apply



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